

REMARKS

The Office Action requires restriction of the claims to one of the following:
Group I, claims 1-9, 12-19, 22-23 and 33-34, drawn to nucleic acids and host cells;

Group II, claims 10-11, 20 and 22, drawn to polypeptides;

Group III, claims 24-28, drawn to a method of identifying compounds and a compound produced by such method;

Group IV, claims 29-31, drawn to a method of identifying DNA sequences;
and

Group V, claim 32, drawn to an antibody.

In response, Applicants submit that claims 22 and 23, which are drawn to a method of identifying compounds and a compound produced by such method should be grouped in Group III; claim 28, which is drawn to an antibody should be grouped in Group V; and that claims 29 and 30, which are drawn to oligonucleotides, should be grouped in Group I. In addition, Applicants note that the application as filed contains 30 claims. Should the office have any additional documents adding claims, Applicants request that the Office forward to the undersigned.

Applicants elect Group I, claims 1-9, 12-19, 29 and 30, with traverse. Applicants preserve the right to file divisional application(s) on the non-elected claims. Applicants respectfully submit that the inventions listed as Groups I-V relate to a single inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1. As disclosed in the present specification, the sequences claimed in claims 1-9, 12-19, 29 and 30 represent novel targets that can be incorporated into an assay to selectively identify compounds capable of inhibiting expression of polypeptides and their potential use in alleviating disease associated with *Candida albicans* infection. See, e.g., page 2. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the requirement for restriction are respectfully requested.

The Office Action also requires election of species as follows:

One of the nucleic acid sequences from SEQ ID NOS:1-9; and

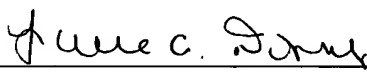
One of the nucleic acid species from claims 4, 5, 6, 33 and 34.

In response, Applicants elect SEQ ID NO:1 and the nucleic acid species of claim 5, with traverse. Applicants preserve the right to file divisional application(s) on the non-elected claims. Applicants respectfully submit that the nucleic acid sequences of SEQ ID NOS:1-9 and the nucleic acid species from claims 4-6 relate to a single inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1. As disclosed in the present

specification, the sequences represent novel targets that can be incorporated into an assay to selectively identify compounds capable of inhibiting expression of polypeptides and their potential use in alleviating disease associated with *Candida albicans* infection. See, e.g., page 2. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the election of species requirement are respectfully requested. Early consideration and prompt allowance of the pending claims are respectfully requested.

Early consideration and prompt allowance of the pending claims are respectfully requested. Should the Office require anything further, it is invited to contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 
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